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MARYLAND GAZETTE.

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For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

NUMBER XXII.

"IT has been a radical advantage in drawing up the treaties of alliance, and of commerce, that the intercourse between France and these States has been wholly new. The greater part of those treaties that have been negotiated, for some centuries, in Europe, have been founded on the base of former treaties. It has been the usual introduction, to say, that "the treaty of Westphalia, 1648; that of Madrid, 1667, and 1670; the treaties of the peace of Nimeguen, 1678 and 1679; that of Ryswick, 1697; that of Utrecht, 1713, &c. &c. &c. shall serve for the basis of the present treaty; they shall be considered as making part of it, and all the articles shall be religiously executed, except those from which it shall be derogated by the present pacification." Former stipulations being thus taken for the ground-work, it is like building upon rubbish of bricks, and ashes and burnt lime, where some claim long ago thought antiquated may still survive, and, like an ember, serve to rekindle new burnings.

Nations on the continent of Europe have entered into treaties of alliance, in order to defend themselves against some powerful neighbour. Claims have been neglected by them, and mutual enmities have been suffered to lie dormant, while they were pressed by the common danger; but when hostilities had ceased against them, or were weakened in their force, these claims, and these enmities have revived, and the treaties that had been built up, fell before them, as the barrier of a wooden palisade, before the flame that is lighted up within it.

Treaties have been concluded between two rival nations, one or both of whom, tired of a long war, and willing to enjoy peace, have been disposed to concede many things, or, at least, to omit the mention of them, which, afterwards, they would be willing to assert, when a better situation of affairs would put it in their power to assert them. Sometimes one part of the article of a treaty has been made to seem to revoke the other, and sometimes the stipulation has been designedly expressed in obscure language; for when both parties were not able to agree upon some certain and precise idea, it was necessary that the matter should be left, *in dubio*. In the treaty of Munster between France and Austria, the province of High and Low Alsace was ceded to the crown of France, with this reservation, "that the states, orders, cities, and gentlemen, who acclame immediately of the empire, should still continue to acknowledge it; and that the most christian king shall exercise over the cities of the landgraviate, but the simple right of protection only which belongs to the house of Austria," adding in the same article, "that the emperor and the empire do not mean by this means to derogate from the right of sovereign dominion, which has been yielded in the most extensive manner to the monarchy of France." It is evident, as father Bougeant remarks in his history of the peace of Westphalia, "that this clause was introduced to calm the fears of a province, which the empire detached from its body;" and it might have been the source of many quarrels, had it not been implicitly given up by the house of Austria, who remained silent on this head, at the peace of Ryswick, 1679.

At this peace, France, on her part, did not choose to assert her claim to the succession of the Spanish monarchy, in right of Maria Theresa, the wife of Louis XIV. but left it to be determined at a future day; and to determine it, we well know, was the subject of a long war at the beginning of this century, when every of the middle states of Europe, and even England, though remote, suffered greatly; and no good from the contention came to mortals, save only to the famous officers on both sides, whose names became immortal from the spirit with which they led their armies, and the devastations with which they over-ran the countries of each other.

Hence we see, that between nations whose interests have often clashed with each other, it is difficult if not impossible to fix a lasting peace. One of these will apprehend that they have yielded too much, the other that they have not acquired sufficient. Old claims will still lie at bottom; antient prejudices will survive, and both kings and people will be unhappy until they are at war again.

The ground of the alliance between France and these states has been wholly new; no rubbish of old claims to be removed; no antient treaties to build upon; all was smooth; the foundation level; and the materials of the structure not the ruins of a former edifice, but hewn from the native rock, and cut from the mountain not before visited. Interests are combined wholly equal, and wholly new; and we have met with passions not before irritated, or affections ruffled by any means with each other.

It is no easy matter for nations or for individuals, whose minds have been often ruffled with hostilities from each other, to forget these and become friends. It is like placing together two broken, ragged, pointed, and uneven surfaces; they never can apply closely. How happy is it then when nations meet perfectly composed in their tempers, and do apply cohere in alliance? How desirable that this temper be preserved? For when once interrupted, it is impossible to take away every point of prejudice and ill-humour which may spring up from the contention.

"Anger between lovers kindles love*;" and altercation between friends begets a more tender friendship; but debates between nations, once arising, preclude, almost for ever, a sincere attachment. The anger of lovers is excess of love, where jealousy arises, giving them to apprehend that they are not, in turn, so much beloved as they would wish to be. The exercise of hope and fear, in the mean time, fixes the object in the mind, and the gentle exprobations calling forth a declaration of regard, the soft affections rise in all their power and occupy the heart. Altercations between friends are of the same nature, and, in the interview between Brutus and Cassius at the town of Sardis, the poet† has well imagined that language, "You love me not, Brutus." But in debates between nations, self interest and ambition are the principles which chiefly operate. These are cold principles; for says the duke de Rochefocault, "Though we often rise from love to ambition, yet we seldom descend from ambition to love." Debates between nations are not the interruption only, but almost always the death of friendship. After many wars, mutual confidence and trust are not easily established. The blood that is shed on both sides calls from the earth, and posterity will, for a long time, remember the wounds inflicted or received by their fathers. Debates are compromised by entering into terms; these terms may be misunderstood, misinterpreted, or misapplied; and like the seeds of herbs in the soil that is ploughed up, new debates may spring out of them.

America and France have met in the early walks of a first acquaintance. There are no seeds of difference between us. Our mutual confidence exists perfect. Let it not be interrupted in the smallest instance, lest it may not, again, be perfect.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

* *Ira amantium redintegratio est amoris.* Ter.

† *Shakespeare.*

LONDON, *Sept.* 28.

THE Baltic fleet of 70 sail, under convoy of the Serapis, and Scarborough, taken by Paul Jones's squadron, made off, on the first of the engagement, for Scarborough bay, and all got safe within the castle.

Captain Pearson, who commanded the Serapis of 44 guns, which was taken by Paul Jones, was appointed to the Endymion of 44 guns lately launched at Deptford, and sitting out there for sea, and was coming from off his station in the North Sea to go on board of her.

A letter from Thomas Williams, Esq; to John Philips, Esq. at Liverpool, dated Tralethin, September 27, says, "I write this to inform you that the Irish cutter privateer is in the Channel, left Fishguard this morning, and is gone either to the coast of Ireland or Studwell road, I think rather to the latter, as they had no water on board and were not suffered to land at Fishguard. She took ten sail of sloops in Fishguard road, among them was the Old George, bound to Belfast from Bristol, ransomed for 300l. a sloop belonging to Mr. Bowen Longwair, also ransomed. She received 700l. Some of the sloops she stript. She fired, they say, 100 shot into the town, wanted four thousand pounds ransom. She carried some six pounders, one of which shot I saw brought here. Some say she is called the Black Prince, formerly belonging to Russia. She is chiefly manned with Irish, English, and Welsh."

The Three Friends, from Liverpool to New-York, was taken the 19th inst. by the Dunkirk privateer, alias Black Prince, in Lalliman's bay, in the island of Jura. In the said port he also took the Francisco de Paula, captain Manoi, taken before by the Defiance, captain Thompson, belonging to Liverpool, laden with wool, hides, and dollars; the dollars were landed before the Black Prince captured her.

The London Gazette has made the most of the Penobscot business; and the ministerial runners and writers, magnify it as much as they can. They have so few victories to rejoice at, that we could pardon their exultations, if we did not know that there was more real cause for weeping than rejoicing. The only thing that sir Henry Clinton has been able to do, during this whole campaign, was getting possession of "that important post Stoney-Point up the North river." And general Washington watches his opportunity; takes it by surprise, and all the cannon, mortars, &c. carries them all off, and then dismantles it. This is another Trenton affair. With this difference. The Hessians at Trenton were made prisoners. The garrison at Stoney-Point were put to the sword, *above four hundred.* This was in *retaliation* for certain cruelties, committed by our soldiers last year. These massacres were too bad to be related, even in our Scotch gazette. Of one of these massacres, some English officers said "it was fortunately quite dark, and they only heard it; if it had been day light they could not have bore the sight." The Scotch officers thought there was no need of it. The refugees alone rejoiced.

The gazette is silent respecting Paulus-Hook. Is it not taken by the Americans? And were not the troops found in it put to the sword?

The ministers at length, have thought proper to give the public some account of general Prevost's business; but why have they not published general Prevost's letter? That letter in the gazette is not his; and they have artfully put his name to the return, not to the letter, to cover the deception. Fie upon such dirty tricks!

The combined fleets of France and Spain have by no means given up the intention of paying some of these countries a visit during the winter. The two fleets remain in Brest water for this purpose, and are reinforced by eleven more ships of the line. The idea of the spanish fleet being afraid to return home without the French escorting them, is the ridiculous invention of the ministerial runners; it was not their purpose to return home without striking a blow; they leave such a conduct to other admirals.

The imputation raised against d'Orvilliers by his enemies was, that he did not beat the English fleet, and burn and destroy Portsmouth and Plymouth. In respect to the first, it has appeared to the French nation the English fleet took care he should not see them, and in respect to the latter he had no troops, or transports to effect it.

Notwithstanding all the puffing made about Sir George Collier's success, taking the retreat of general Prevost into the scale, the whole seems to be no more than a drawn battle; for if we have conquered by sea, the Americans have conquered by land.

Extract of a letter from Port-Glasgow, Sept. 23.

"Two French cutters of 16 and 18 guns, have paraded St. George's Channel, and no longer ago than Sunday last, one of the cutters (for the other is gone north among the herring busses, and has taken and destroyed several that we have already heard of) cut out of a bay in the island of Jura, a rich Spanish prize from New-Spain, with 13,000 dollars on board, besides a rich cargo of hat wool, &c. also a letter of

marque ship belonging to Liverpool with a valuable assorted West-India cargo; both vessels, without exaggeration, worth at least thirty thousand pounds; the cutter mounted 18 six pounders, and had 92 men. Besides the above, the southernmost cutter took and ransomed a brig belonging to Saltcoats, two sloops belonging to Greenock, and one to Liverpool, all laden loaded; besides sundry others. The Black Prince, I much doubt, has by this time made as many prizes among the busses as she can carry ransomers for. You may rely upon the certainty of this information."

PHILADELPHIA, *Dec.* 16.

From undoubted authority we hear, that two armed vessels, (one the Oliver Cromwell) convoying five transports from New-York to Penobscot, were taken by the American frigates, and brought into Boston.

In ASSEMBLY, *Nov.* 18, 1779.

Agreeable to a proposition from a convention of commissioners assembled at Hartford, from the states of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New-York, recommending that a general convention of all the states as far southward as Virginia, inclusive, do meet in the city of Philadelphia on the first Wednesday in January next, to agree on a general limitation of prices, and other matters therein mentioned:

Resolved unanimously, That this house doth approve of the same.

November 22, *P. M.*

Agreeable to the order of the day, the house proceeded to elect by ballot five persons, as commissioners, to meet with other commissioners in this city from the states north-east of Virginia inclusive, on the first Wednesday in January next, for the purpose expressed in the minute of the 18th instant. The election being taken, the honourable John Bayard, Speaker, George Bryan, John Jacobs, John Bull, and William Henry of Lancaster, Esquires, were duly chosen.

Extract from the minutes,

THOMAS PAINE,
Clerk of the general assembly.

N. B. The printers in the several states which are to form the convention are requested to give the above a place in their papers.

ANNAPOLIS, *Dec.* 31.

Yesterday the General Assembly of this State adjourned, the senate to the twenty-ninth and the house of Delegates to the first day of March next, after having passed the following Laws:

1. An act concerning nonjurors.
2. An act for the relief of the reverend Francis Lauder.
3. An act for the relief of Anna Maria Ringgold, of Kent county, widow.
4. An act to prevent the raising of geese and swine in the town of Cambridge.
5. An act for the furtherance of justice in a particular cause.
6. An act relating to the county courts of Caroline county.
7. A supplement to the act for the establishment of select vestries.
8. An act for the erecting new warehouses in the town of Bladensburg.
9. An act for the relief of the reverend Thomas Brown, of Dorset county, and the reverend Joseph Messenger, of saint Mary's county.
10. An act to explain the several acts of assembly heretofore made, relative to the enrollment of deeds.
11. An act to enable the corporation of the city of Annapolis to sell certain lands, to lay a further tax on property within the said city and its precincts, to regulate and license ordinaries and retailers of spirituous liquors within the said city and the precincts thereof.
12. An act to continue the acts of assembly therein mentioned.
13. An act relating to the marsh-causeway in Caroline county.
14. An act relating to public roads.
15. An act to incorporate the managers of Back-Creek school.
16. An act to prohibit, for a limited time, the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beer, pork, bacon, live stock, peas, beans, oats and other victual.
17. An act for enlarging the powers of the governor and council.
18. An act for the more effectual preventing forestalling and engrossing, and for other purposes therein mentioned.
19. An act to enable the justices of Frederick and Montgomery counties to assess a sum of money sufficient to defray the expences of the commissioners in dividing Frederick county.
20. An act to empower Thomas Harrison to lay out anew and amend the streets, lanes, and alleys, of that part of Baltimore-Town commonly called The Marsh Ground.
21. An act for the relief of Joseph Cowman, of Anne-Arundel county.
22. An act to empower the vestry of St. Paul's parish, in Baltimore county, to exchange certain lands with Thomas Harrison, for the use of said parish, and for other purposes therein mentioned.
23. An act for securing the title of the proprietors of lots and houses in Charles-Town, in Charles county.
24. An act relating to the estates of deceased persons.
25. An act for the regulation of officers fees.
26. An act to prevent distilling grain into spirit.
27. An act for the relief of William Whetcroft, of the city of Annapolis.
28. An act to empower the governor and the council to sell the public property therein mentioned.
29. An act to appoint commissioners to state and settle the public accounts.
30. An act to make valid a deed from Joseph Semmes, of the kingdom of France, to Charles Goodrick, of Charles county.
31. An act relating to certain certificates.
32. An act for the immediate supply of flour and other provisions for the army.
33. An act to prohibit the going at large swine and geese in Baltimore-Town, in Baltimore county.
34. A supplement to the act, entitled, An act for enlarging the powers of the governor and council.
35. An act for the assessment of property within this state.
36. An act for recruiting the quota of troops of this state in the American army.
37. An act for the relief of certain nonjurors.
38. An act for calling out of circulation certain bills of credit emitted by acts of assembly.
39. An act to encrease the allowances of witnesses and the fees of constables.
40. An act to encrease the allowance of justices of the peace and jurymen.
41. An act for the special appointment of inspectors, and to encrease their salaries and the warehouse rent.
42. An act for the payment of the journal of accounts.

By his EXCELLENCY
THOMAS SIM LEE, Esquire,
GOVERNOR of MARYLAND,
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it is represented, by the most unquestionable authority, that the army of the United States is greatly distressed for want of flour and forage, and that they will infallibly disband, unless the most speedy and extraordinary exertions are made, by this state, to procure those articles for their relief.

And, Whereas the General Assembly have enacted a law, entitled, "An act for the immediate supply of flour and other provisions for the army," which requires the utmost efforts of every worthy citizen of this state to carry the same into full and speedy execution:

I DO therefore most earnestly entreat, conjure, require, and enjoin, all justices of the peace, sheriffs and their deputies, constables, and all other the good citizens of this state, by that love of their country, that patriotic zeal and magnanimity which have hitherto distinguished their conduct in the present glorious contest for life, liberty, and property, to exert themselves to the utmost, at this critical emergency, in procuring and furnishing flour and other provisions for the immediate relief of the army, in their present alarming distress, and rendering every assistance to the commissioners, in carrying the said law into execution.

GIVEN at Annapolis the twenty-ninth day of December, in the year of our lord seventeen hundred and seventy-nine.

THO. SIM LEE

GOD SAVE THE STATE

By his Excellency's command,
THO. JOHNSON, jun. Secr.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES,
December 30, 1779.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That it is the duty of the General Assembly to enact laws to promote the happiness, the convenience, the ease and safety of the people.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That it was the duty of the General Assembly to comply (so far as in their power) with the requisition of Congress, of the 6th of October last, and to raise possible fourteen million two hundred and thousand dollars, required by Congress to be quota, in nine months from the first of February next, on which the public credit, the existence of our army, and the support of our liberties greatly depend.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That it is the opinion of this House, that it is impracticable to attempt to raise the whole of our quota by taxes, and that it is impracticable to collect by taxes the monthly sum of one million five hundred and eighty thousand dollars.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That it is the opinion of this House, that the honourable the senate, by rejecting the bill for the seizing and confiscating British property, hath prevented this House from complying with the requisitions of Congress, and raising money to enable this state to support the credit of our currency, and to defray the current expences of the war; and therefore, that any consequences which may arise therefrom to the public are properly and justly to be imputed to those members of the Senate who gave their negative to the bill.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That the voters of this state be earnestly requested to express their sentiments on the present difference between the two branches of the legislature, respecting the seizing and confiscating British property within this State.

ORDERED, That the above resolves be printed in the Annapolis and Baltimore news-papers, and with the messages before ordered to be published.

Paid

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, dated Thursday morning, Dec. 23, 1779.

"I have this moment received (from good authority) an account that 6000 men have embarked at New-York, that general Clinton is with them, and that they are bound to the southward."

We are requested to insert the following, from the Pennsylvania Journal of Dec. 22.

BOSTON, *Dec.* 2.

We hear the state of New-Hampshire have most equitably and wisely repealed the law that enabled a man to discharge a debt in silver, upon his paying the creditor the same nominal sum in paper, and empowered their judges not barely to sit in the seat of nominal justice, but really to dispense it between man and man. They were sensible that the law they have so honourably repealed was, in its operation, a crying sin; that particularly it pointed the cry of the widow and orphan against the government that enacted it, and that the cry was loud and piercing enough to make the ears even of a pagan to tingle. They were fully sensible that it must be a flagrant scandal upon any government, to continue a law which the common feelings of humanity would never allow to be executed, and according to which no jury, with the least spark of conscience or honour, could ever give their verdict.

A PETITION will be offered to the first session of the general assembly after this notice shall have been published eight weeks, for an act admitting to record, and giving effect from the date to a deed executed in Prince-George's county, by George Conn to Josias Shaw, for part of a tract of land called William and Anne.

3w 2 RICHARD HENDERSON.

In COUNCIL, Annapolis, Dec. 27, 1779.

ANY gentleman having vessels to let on freight to Europe or the West-Indies, and willing to treat with the Governor and Council, are requested to transmit their propolals as speedily as convenient.

3 T. JOHNSON, jun. cl.

CAME some months ago to the plantation of Mrs. Eleanor Carroll, on Rock-Creek, Montgomery county, the following stray cattle, viz. One red steer, one brindled and one black heifer; they are marked with two swallow-forks. The owner may have them again, on proving his property and paying charges, by applying to

3X PAUL SOMERS, Overseer.

CASH given for clean Linen and Cotton RAGS. 3

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE in *Charles-Street.*